

TOP SECRET

Com-5

22 May 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Comments by Mr. McCone at Special Group Meeting,
21 May 1964

1. Although not on the agenda, Mr. McCone said he would like to note for the record the recent lack of success in photographic efforts against [redacted] and elsewhere with IDEALIST, CORONA [redacted] equipment largely due to unforeseen technical difficulties. He viewed this lack of input as rather serious when balanced against the requirement of early autumn estimates.

2. In regard to IDEALIST equipment, he cited consistently poor weather, plus a lagging fuel control and flameout problem which had not yet been resolved.

3. March and April CORONA orbits were non-productive and May missions had to be postponed until 28 May and 9 June. [redacted] These matters were called to Mr. Bundy's attention with Mr. McCone emphasizing that the problems were being tackled on an urgent basis outside the forum of the Special Group.


5. Mr. McCone then asked if all members had approved the one additional IDEALIST mission to complete total coverage of the [redacted]. The Secretary indicated that the approvals of all members had been obtained.

State Dept. review completed

NRO review(s) completed.

OSD review
completed

NSC Review Completed


Peter Johnson

Distribution
Mr. Johnson
Mr. Vance
Mr. McCone

Handle via BYEMAN
Control System

BYE 26519/64 (Series B)
Copy 2 of 5 copies

22 May 64